A NEW FORM OF PRAYER, AND THANKSGIVING FOR THE HAPPY DELIVERANCE OF JOHN WILKES, *Esq*;

DEARLY beloved Countrymen, We are taught by the words of Wilkes in ſeveral places, to acknowledge and confeſs our gratitude and praiſes, and that we ſhould not diſſemble or hide them before the face of our Country, but confeſs them with a joyful and merry heart, to the end that we may enjoy a continuance of the ſame, through his fortitude and plainneſs. And altho' we ought at all times to acknowledge our favours from great men, ſo ought we eſpecially ſo to do when we come together, to render thanks for the great benefits we have received from Wilkes's hands, to ſpeak in his praiſe, and to hear every ſpeech, and to plead thoſe things which are right and requiſite both for Freedom and Liberty.

¶ *Then*

¶ *Then the Orator ſhall ſay,*

O Wilkes! open thou thy lips.

Anſw. And we will ſound forth thy name abroad upon the earth.

Orat. O Wilkes! continue us thy aid.

Anſw. O Wilkes! continue us thy aid.

¶ *Here all ſtanding, the Orator ſhall ſay.*

Honour be to thee, O Wilkes!

Anſw. As thou wert in the beginning, ſo thou art now, and ever will be, Liberty without end. Amen.

¶ *The firſt lecture is taken from the Chronicles the 12th chapter begining at the 45th Verſe,*

NOW there was in the reign of G***** the king, a mighty ſpirit of tribulation. And the great men of the land were laying upon the people burthens of great weight, yea, heavier burthens than were borne by their fathers, or their fathers fathers before them. And they cried out unto the elders, and complained for lack of relief. (Now the elders were deaf to their cries, and they minded not the daily lamentation which they made.) And they cried yet louder and louder, ſo that the whole land was pierced with the ſound thereof. And behold, in proceſs of time, that there aroſe up a man, (who was alſo an elder, and a colonel of the guard, in the land of Buckingham) who had compaſſion upon

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upon them; and he opened his mouth, and ſaid, Of a truth I perceive that you are oppreſſed and agrieved, and that your taſk-maſters lay upon you more than you are able to bear. Behold, I myſelf will ſpeak unto this people who do evil continually, and will require a reaſon for that which they no do. Be ye, therefore, patient, having peace amongſt yourſelves, and you ſhall be filled. Now it came to paſs that after a ſhort time this good man did as he promiſed unto the people. And he ſpoke time after time of their tribulation, and wrote even letters with his own hand, complaining of the rulers in a free country. And behold, they were affronted thereat, and they were full of envy againſt this man, becauſe he had ſpoken well of the people. And when it was ſo that he had wrote even a forty-fifth letter unto them, that they took him out of the houſe of his habitation, and put him into a faſt place, which plcae is called a tower even unto this day. And they looked into his dwelling, and ſearched for his papers, and all his ſecret workings, and they took them every one. And behold, when they had found theſe, that they took him from the faſt place, and baniſhed him afar off beyond the ſea. And he was left there, and commanded not to return; for behold it ſeemly unto the elders that he ſhould be put away from amongſt them.

Then the people ſhall Chaunt.

O Come, let us ſing unto Wilkes let us rejoice in the ſpirit of his writings.

Let us thank him with our lips, and ſhew ourſelves glad in him with huzzas.

For Wilkes is a great writer, and a writer above all writers.

In his brain are all the quirks of the law, and their effects are known to him alſo.

The N*** B**** is his, and he mad it his head prepared the matter thereof.

For he is the man that ſhewcth wonders, and we are the people that read the work o his hands.

If you wuold hear him ſpeak, turn not away, as in his provocation, when an exile, and as in the day of tribulation in the King's Bench priſon,

When our great men tempted him, proved him, and ſaw him ſtaunch.

Several years was he grieved with this ſet of wretches, and ſaid. it is a people who want ſlavery and famin. They know not my worth.

Unto whom *I* ſware by magna charta that they ſhould not gain their eud.

Honour be to thee, O Wilkes!

As thou wert in the beginning, thou art now, and ever will be, Liberty without end. *Amen.*

¶ *The 2d lecture is from the book of Propheey 2d chapter begsnning at the 12th verſe.*

WHATSOEVER things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through inſtruction and underſtanding, might ſee into the depths thereof. Now the great ſecret is found out which was before hid from our eyes, and we ſee clearly as at noon-day. In the beginning was a favourite, and this favourite was B*** and B*** was with the****. Many were the things wrought by him, and without him was not any evil done that was done. In him was pride, and that pride was found to be the deſtruction of men. Now there was a man returned from the land whereunto he was ſent, and alſo perſecuted. whoſe name was Wilkes, the ſame came back for a plague unto evil doers. And he abode within the gates of city many days, and put his name among thoſe who were to be choſen elders of the land. But they caſt him from among them ſo that he was not one of the elect, and he went his way. Howbeit he had in another roll his name written (as is recorded in the chronicles) and he was choſen. Now when B***heard thereof, and ſaw what they had done amongſt them he was very wroth, and wiſt not what to do, for this ſame man had ſtung him aforetime. So he ſtirred up his fellows againſt him. to perſecute him, that he might not abide with them,

them, And behold they grew exceeding powerful, insomuch that they took him away from the people and put him into a strong hold. And the people grew very wroth, and was displeased thereat. And they assembled in great companies by thousands, and would not be at rest, because of the things which were done. And they made great noises together; and many got for themselves chalk which was white for to make a mark on every man as he passed thus, 45 And this mark was put upon the coverings of the heads and the backs of all who passed this way or that way in honour of their great idols. Wilkes and liberty. Until the even of many days did they do these things.

Thus endeth the second Lecture.

Then shall be said by the Orator and the people

BE merry O my conutrymen, let your hearts be filled with gladness, and chear up your souls with a song.

Be ye sure that he shall released: it is he that defendeth us, and not our Twitchers; we are his friends and the delight of his heart.

O go your way into tne city, with huzzas, and unto your homes with his praise. shew favour unto Wilkes, and rejoice in his name.

For

For Wilkes is ever firm, his patriotism is verlasting, and his praise will endure for ver.

Honour be to thee, O Wilkes!

As thou wert in the beginning, thou art ow, and ever will be, liberty without end. men.

Then shall be said the Wilkonian Creed by the Orator, the people repeating it after him.

Believe in Wilkes the firm Patriot, maker of No. 45. Who was born for our good uffered under arbitrary power. Was baished and imprisoned. He descended into urgatory, and returned some time after. e ascended here with honour, and was aced amidst the great assembly of the peoe, where he was come to judge both the avorite and his Creatures. I believe in e spirit of his abilities, that they will ove advantageous to our country. In the surrection of liberty, and the life of uniersal freedom for ever. Amen.

¶ *A Prayer for a King.*

MOST gracious providence! on the best of monarchs we beseech thee to ower down the best of thy blessings. Let ie wisdom govern every action of his e. Attacked by favorites and tools, veland corrupt locusts, O arm him with ength to overcome their fallacy and thstand their temptations. Let not esntery or arrogance prevail against him, r the dictates of presumption preside were jesty and power join hand in hand. From

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evil aſperſions and falſe accuſations ever ſhield him. From all party influence protect him! and may juſtice for ever be the rule of his conduct. With mercy and compaſſion endow him for the ſake of his country. Amen.

¶ *Another for wicked miniſters.*

YE ſons of ambition and pride, ye workers of evil, and the deſtroyers of the poor, woe, woe, woe belong unto you wherever ye dwell. O, ye gods! have mercy upon them, Teach them to act like men and behave as Beings capable of feeling and fraught with reaſon. O turn the hearts of all placemen, penſioners, and favorites, from the preſent mode of action. Give them to know and to feer for the neceſſities of the poor and indigent; and that, inſtead of ſcraping, bowing, and cringing for a place in the court, it would much better become them to exert their utmoſt abilities in endeavouring to lower the prices of almoſt all the neceſſaries of life, that the poor man may rejoice, and the heart of the Widow be upliſted With joy. Teach them ſubmiſſion to the Will of their Maſter, and to be always attentive to thoſe things which concern the public and the common weal in general. Give them this ſpirit of ambition of doing good to their country, and we aſk no more for the ſake of peace and good order. Amen.

NOW to all men be conſolation, friendſhip, and good will, from this time forth, and for evermore.